

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 CU-02 INR-05 NSAE-00 RSC-01 USIE-00

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TO AMEMBASSY PARIS NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 253489

NESCO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OCON, UNESCO, IS

SUBJECT: UNESCO--ARAB-MOSLEM RESOLUTION ON ISRAELI

EXCAVATIONS IN JERUSALEN

REF: (A) PARIS 27150 (B) CAIRO 9222 (C) TEL AVIV 6318

1. OUR CONCLUSION BASED ON DEL'S DETAILED REPORT REFTEL
(A) LEADS US TO BELIEVE THAT THERE IS VERY LITTLE HOPE
OF REMOVING SANCTIONS PART OF ARAB-MOSLEM RESOLUTION ON
UNESCO ASSISTANCE TO ISRAEL BY REVERSING VOTE IN PLENARY.
ONLY OTHER OPTION OF TRYING TO HAVE THE LANGUAGE OF THE
RESOLUTION SOFTENED ALSO SEEMS TO HAVE NO CHANCE UNLESS
GOI IS WILLING TO MAKE SOME SORT OF GESTURE OF COMPROMISE
THAT WOULD ENABLE MODERATE ARABS AND OTHER CO-SPONSORS
TO CHANGE THEIR POSITION. UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES,
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AND NOTING GOI POSITION AS EXPRESSED IN REFTEL (C), AND

THEIR VIEW THAT MAKING CONCESSIONS MIGHT ADMIT TO SOME SORT OF WRONGDOING VIS-A-VIS SACRED MOSLEM SITES, AND NOTING THE EFFECT THAT SUCH A CHANGE IN POSITION MIGHT HAVE IN REGARD TO THE FUTURE STATUS OF JERUSALEM, WE BELIEVE NOT PROFITABLE TO APPROACH GOI NOW TO SHOW NEW FLEXIBILITY. LACKING ISRAELI GESTURE THERE IS LITTLE PROSPECT IN APPROACHING EITHER ARAB LEADERS OR MOSLEM CO-SPONSORS.

2. IN CIRCUMSTANCES OUR OBJECTIVE IS BY WORKING FOR IMPROVEMENT OF VOTE TO GIVE SIGN TO ISRAELIS AND OTHERS

OF STRENGTH OF OUR OPPOSITION TO SANCTIONS. THUS USDEL UNESCO SHOULD CONTINUE STRENUIOUSLY TO SUPPORT FRIENDLY EFFORTS TO MODIFY LANGUAGE ON SANCTION ISSUE AND INCREASE THE NUMBER OF NEGATIVE VOTES AND ABSTENTIONS ON SANCTIONS PARAGRAPH.

3. RECOMMENDATION OF REFTEL (A) PARA D REGARDING APPROACHES TO THE PLO NOT APPROPRIATE UNDER PRESENT INSTRUCTIONS.

4. IF IN LINE WITH OBJECTIVES PARA 2 ABOVE, AND WITHOUT ISRAELI GESTURE, USDEL BELIEVES FURTHER SELECTED DEMARCHESS IN CAPITALS MIGHT RESULT IN DIMINISHING MAJORITY.
DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING YOUR RECOMMENDATION BY NIACT IMMEDIATE CABLE. KISSINGER

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